

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 177730
ORIGIN AF-04

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 NSCE-00 IO-06 SP-02 SY-02
/029 R

DRAFTED BY AF/S:KMCCORMICK:RCB
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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY MASERU
INFO AMEMBASSY GABORONE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 177730

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP, LT

SUBJ: PROPOSED VISITS TO US BY KING MOSHOESHOE AND
PRIME MINISTER JONATHAN

REF: (A) GABORONE 2113, (B) MASERU 1429

1. AS MOLAPO MAY HAVE KNOWN (TO JUDGE FROM HIS LACK OF
ENTHUSIASM OR APPARENT EXPECTATIONS IN PRESENTING REQUEST),
IT WOULD BE MISLEADING FOR US TO BE AT ALL ENCOURAGING
ABOUT THE CHANCES OF PRIME MINISTER JONATHAN MEETING WITH
PRESIDENT CARTER DURING UNGA THIS FALL. A SIGNIFICANT
NUMBER OF HEADS OF GOVERNMENT PLAN ON ATTENDING UNGA AND
IT WOULD BE IMPOSSIBLE FOR THE PRESIDENT TO ARRANGE
MEETINGS WITH THEM ALL; WHITE HOUSE ADVISES THAT PRESI-
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DENT'S SCHEDULE FOR THAT PERIOD IS ALREADY FULL. YOU
SHOULD ADVISE MOLAPO THAT REGRETFULLY, EVEN A BRIEF
OFFICIAL MEETING WITH THE PRESIDENT AT THAT TIME DOES NOT
APPEAR TO BE POSSIBLE.

2. EMBASSY IS CORRECT THAT ANY INSISTENCE AT THIS POINT

BY GOL THAT PLANNED PRIVATE VISIT BY KING MOSHOESHOE BE
ALTERED TO INCLUDE MEETING WITH PRESIDENT CARTER WOULD
INTRODUCE GREAT COMPLICATIONS AND COULD FORCE CANCELLATION
OF ENTIRE VISIT. WE ARE PROCEEDING WITH PLANNING FOR
SEPTEMBER 5 VISIT ON BASIS OF ORIGINAL GOL REQUEST FOR
LOW-PROTOCOL PRIVATE VISIT WITH EMPHASIS ON GAINING
FAMILIARITY WITH US AND SEEING SPECIFIC DEVELOPMENT-
RELATED INSTITUTIONS AND PROJECTS. SEPTTEL WILL FOLLOW
WITH REVISED PROGRAM BASED ON PARA 3, REF (B). CHRISTOPHER

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NNN

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